

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 SWF-02 AID-20

CEA-02 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /176 W

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O R 030846Z JUL 74 ZZ4

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

FM RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1344

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

UESGPQ/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 9481

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 4843

MOSCOW FOR SECRETARY PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, EEC, BE, FR

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS VISIT TO PARIS

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1. SUMMARY, PRESS REPORTS THAT TINDEMANS URGED FRENCH LEADERS TO TAKE THE LEAD IN RELAUNCHING EUROPE AND ENCOURAGED FRANCE TO ENTER INTO CLOSER TIES WITH THE EUROGROUP. END SUMMARY.

2. BELGIAN PRESS HAS GIVEN PROMINENT COVERAGE TO PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS' JULY 1 PARIS TALKS WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING AND PRIME MINISTER CHIRAC, STRESSING TINDEMANS' STATED CONVICTION THAT MOVEMENT TOWARD EUROPEAN UNITY DEPENDS ON FRENCH LEADERSHIP. "LA LIBRE BELGIQUE" RECALLS TINDEMANS' STATEMENT OF MAY 31 DEALING WITH ATLANTIC AND EUROPEAN TIES: "THE IDEA OF ATLANTICISM IS AGAIN RISING TO THE SURFACE, BUT WE ALWAYS WANT EUROPE. FRANCE IS NOW OFFERED A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY. GISCARD D'ESTAING CAN TAKE CHARGE OF THE EUROPEAN MOVEMENT. THE FATE OF EUROPE IS IN HIS HANDS." TINDEMANS IS REPORTED TO HAVE REPEATED THIS LAST PHRASE TO THE PRESS UPON ENDING HIS JULY 1 MEETING WITH GISCARD, PREDICTING THAT FRANCE WOULD TAKE AN INITIATIVE (UNSPECIFIED) NEXT FALL TO RELAUNCH EUROPE. "LE SOIR" QUOTES TINDEMANS AS SAYING THAT "FRANCE COULD NOW BE THE TRUE LEADER OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION".

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF FRANCE AND NATO, TINDEMANS IS CREDITED WITH THE FOLLOWING VIEW, GIVEN IN AN INTERVIEW BEFORE HIS MEETINGS: "I AM CONVINCED THAT FRANCE SHOULD REJOIN (SIC) THE EUROPGROUP, AND WHY WOULDN'T SHE DO IT SOONER OR LATER? BESIDES, THE OTTAWA DECLARATION EXPRESSED THIS IDEA OF A GREATER EUROPEAN IDENTITY WITHIN NATO." ACCORDING TO ONE STORY, THE EUROPGROUP CAME UP ALSO DURING THE TALKS. REPORTEDLY, (SEE BRUSSELS 4825) THE FRENCH PUSHED FOR A BELGIAN PURCHASE OF MIRAGE AIRCRAFT TO REPLACE F-104GS, AND THE BELGIANS REPLIED THAT, WHATEVER MIGHT BE THE CHOICE OF THE TECHNICIANS, FRANCE SHOULD ACCEPT SOME STANDARDIZATION OF ARMAMENTS WITHIN EITHER THE EUROGROUP OR ANOTHER BODY LESS TIED TO NATO. FIREST ONE

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